

AGN. NO. _____

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
AND GLORIA MOLINA**

MARCH 24, 2009

The densely urbanized unincorporated areas of Florence-Firestone and Lennox both stand to benefit from updated planning programs that identify sustainable strategies and opportunities that address the communities' unique conditions and concerns. The CALTRANS Transportation Planning Grant Program aims to coordinate transportation and land use planning projects that encourage community involvement and partnership, thus providing a timely opportunity for Los Angeles County to solicit resources for this objective.

Recent efforts in Florence-Firestone, namely the "Visioning Project", have engaged constituents in the development of a community vision to address the community's deteriorating infrastructure, significant criminal activity, zoning violations, and mobility limitations. The community is of relatively high density, is located near major employment centers, and has access to light rail transit, thus providing significant opportunities for a more livable environment. The Florence-Firestone area is suited to the Community-Based Transportation grant as its program focuses on long-term

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sustainable community and economic development, and incorporates community-based stakeholder collaboration and consensus building. Moreover, a comprehensive community planning program would ensure that the findings obtained from the “Visioning Project” would be realized.

In addition, Lennox residents would benefit from planning efforts that address the aircraft and automobile traffic, and related noise and vibration, resulting from proximity to the 405 and 105 freeways and the Los Angeles International Airport. Existing infrastructure and facilities within the community provide the potential for a highly sustainable setting, including streets that could be enhanced through improved pedestrian amenities and the addition of transit-oriented-development. CALTRANS’ Environmental Justice grant is intended to promote the involvement of low-income and minority communities in the planning for transportation projects, and to prevent or mitigate disproportionate, negative impacts while improving their mobility, access, safety, and opportunities for affordable housing. This planning program in Lennox would assess the impacts of the airport and freeways to the community, and allow for community collaboration in fostering opportunities to enhance community mobility and access, improve the business climate, and promote economic development.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Direct and authorize the Acting Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Department to take all appropriate action to apply to CALTRANS for the

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Community-Based Transportation grant for the Florence-Firestone community and the Environmental Justice grant for the Lennox community and that the Board approve the attached resolution authorizing application for said grants.

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